

# Western E-vent in Early Modern Philosophy

## Informal Discussion

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### The Question

Why is it important that philosophers study the history of philosophy and why should we continue to teach it? Alternative formulation: Why should programs continue to have history of philosophy courses as degree requirements?”

### The Vision

The idea behind these informal discussions is that smaller groups can informally share ideas and thoughts on topics outside of traditional research domains but of direct professional interests. The topics and questions I’ve chosen for these sessions revolve around our teaching and mentoring roles (with an eye toward to paper topics of the surrounding sessions) with the goal that sharing our personal experiences and lessons we’ve learned can be mutually enlightening and interesting to converse about.

I envision the session as a variant of “Respond, React, Reply” in that each person in turn has the opportunity to provide a 1-2 min response to the prompt, people react to the response using the Zoom “Reactions” function or posting in chat, and then the floor is opened to replies.

I hope that the discussions around these questions are as enjoyable as they are informative.